

SECRET

-2- 53, August 5, 5 p.m., from Jidda

well's successor already en route Saudi Arabia but nevertheless his request would be referred to Washington.

Comment: I believe this presents valuable opportunity meet, to both Saudi and American interests, reasonable request by Saudi Defense Minister and at same time increase effectiveness military mission. If Bothwell's successor would on arrival assume responsibility only for ar* protection Taif and its outposts, with which it will take him some weeks to familiarize himself, Bothwell could remain Acting Chief MAAG and maintain continuing direct liaison with Mishaal wherever he may be on both Army and Air Force sectilo matters and assist Hancock and me in following and reporting technical military discussions. Consequently, Hancock and I recommend Department urge Defense delay Bothwell's departure for period not to exceed six months.

Quirs* Mishaal expressed several times his personal desire for close and friendly cooperation with US, which would (#) see my telegrams 43 and 44 frequently reiterated by Yusuf Yasin in subsequent discussions.

Hancock suggests Defense pass USAFE.

WADSWORTH

CWD:MAA

*As received, correction to follow.

(#) Omission, correction to follow.

French called +
said Bothwell
being pursued
at 8:10

D. Evans of AF called saying French had
referred to him as AF responsible in view
DAF negotiations. Asked my view. I said
we were disposed support BW & hoped Defense
would comply if it could do so without prejudicing
smooth running their operations. He thought
this reasonable. I said we certainly should
get reply out this week. at 8/13.

Reply sent agreeing Bothwell
remaining up to 6 months
at

AUG 27 1956

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